

In the Drawings:

Please replace Figure 1A with the attached replacement drawing sheet for page 1.

Figure 1A is revised to show the touch screen 120 of claim 28 and the voice recognition system 122 of claim 30.

REMARKS

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Claims 26-30 are objected to for informalities. Claims 28 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claim 25 stands allowed. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-13, 16-23, 26, 27, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 4,918,444 to Matsubayashi (hereinafter "Matsubayashi"). Claims 8, 28, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsubayashi. Claims 6, 14, 15, and 24 are objected to as depending from rejected base claims but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicants' remarks are presented in substantially the same order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action. Please note that the following remarks are not intended to be an exhaustive enumeration of the distinctions between any cited references and the claimed invention. Rather, the distinctions identified and discussed below are presented solely by way of example to illustrate some of the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references.

Claims 1, 6, 12, 19, 21, 22, 24, and 26 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the claimed invention. The amendments are fully supported by the specification and introduce no new material to the claims. Claim 14 is canceled.

Response to objections of drawings.

The drawings are objected to for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claim. In particular, the drawings are objected to for not showing the "touch screen" of claim 28 and the "voice recognition system" of claim 30. Applicants have amended Fig. 1A to show the "touch screen" of claim 28 and the "voice recognition system" of claim 30. Applicants have also amended the paragraph starting on line 6 of page 11 to refer to the "touch screen 120" and "voice recognition system 122" of Fig. 1A as amended. No new matter is introduced.

Response to objections to claims for informalities.

Claims 26-30 are objected to for informalities. Claim 26 is amended to change each instance of "input" and "input system" to "input device" to designate the same element. Applicants submit that the claims 26-30 as amended correct the informalities.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph.

Claims 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, claim 28 is rejected as a "touch screen" is not described in the specification and claim 30 is rejected as a "voice recognition module" rather than a "voice recognition system" is described in the specification. As discussed above, the Applicants have amended Fig. 1A and the paragraph starting on line 6 of page 11 to refer to the "touch screen" of claim 28 and "voice recognition system" of claim 30. Applicants submit that the specification as amended describes the "touch screen" and "voice recognition system" and

that claims 28 and 30 are therefore allowable.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-13, 16-23, 26, 27, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsubayashi. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 26 are amended to include the limitation of "a rules table containing key codes and rules associated with each key code, each rule determining whether a key code is to be blocked or transmitted" Claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 26 as amended. The amended limitation is from the original claims 6, 14, 24, and 25 and introduces no new matter.

As the closest prior art, Matsubayashi, either singularly or in combination does not anticipate or render the amended limitation obvious, Applicants assert that claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 26 are therefore allowable. With regards to 2-5, 7, 9-11, 13, 16-18, 20, 23, 27, and 29, Applicants submit that the claims are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 8, 28, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsubayashi. Applicants submit that claims 8, 28, and 30 are allowable as depending from allowable claims as discussed above. In addition, Applicants assert that the Official Notice of the concept and advantages of a touch screen and a voice recognition system in combination with Matsubayashi is inappropriate. The key-depression data input device of Matsubayashi may correct the phantom keys resulting from sneak conduction in a keyboard switch matrix, but is not

configured to detect invalid keys from a touch screen and/or a voice recognition system.

Matsubayashi, Col. 2, line 43 – Col. 3, line 22. Fig. 2. Therefore the teaching of Matsubayashi cannot be used with a touch screen and/or voice recognition system, and Applicants assert that it cannot be obvious to employ a touch screen and/or voice recognition system with the teaching of Matsubayashi.

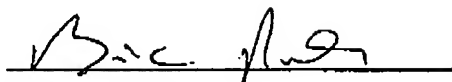
Response to objects to claims as dependent on rejected base claims

Claims 6, 14, 15, and 24 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim.

Claim 14 is canceled. The limitation of “a rules table containing key codes and rules associated with each key code, each rule determining whether a key code is to be blocked or transmitted” is deleted from claims 6 and 24 and the limitation is amended to the independent claim from which claims 6, 15, and 24 depend. Applicant therefore submits that claims 6, 15, and 24 are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

As a result of the presented remarks, Applicants assert that claims 1-13 and 15-30 are in condition for prompt allowance. Should additional information be required regarding the traversal of the rejections of the dependent claims enumerated above, Examiner is respectfully asked to notify Applicants of such need. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

In the Specifications:

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 6 of page 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring to Figures 1A and 1B, in one embodiment, a key code filter 102 is inserted between a keyboard 100, a touch screen 120, and/or a voice recognition system 122 and a host computer 104. While the particular embodiment of a keyboard 100 is given here by way of example, it should be readily recognized that the present invention may be used with other types of input devices, including the touch screen 120, the voice recognition system 122 modules, touch pads, light activation devices, and the like. Similarly, the host computer 104 may be any computing device, including but not limited to an Internet or networking terminal, a main frame computer, distributive computing, a personal computer, a hand-held computer, and a processor in a customer services kiosk.